

REMARKS


Claims 1-60 were originally filed in the parent application S.N. 09/540,033, filed March 31, 2000 which was subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121. Claims 1-60 were elected during prosecution of the parent application. Thus, claims 23-40 and 53-60 were prosecuted to allowance in the parent application.

In this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have canceled Claims 41-52, therefore, the claims remaining for consideration by the Examiner are Claims 1-22.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Dated: JANUARY 21, 2004

NATIONAL STARCH AND CHEMICAL
COMPANY
Post Office Box 6500
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807-0500
Phone 908.707-3738
Fax 908.683.6610



Charles W. Almer
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 36,731